

EX PARTE ORAL HEARING

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

16 MAR 1993

Docket-222

POLICY & PLANNING  
BRANCH ROOM 5202

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7330-7/1700A3

RECEIVED

MAR 24 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Trent Lott  
United States Senator  
3100 Pascagoula Street  
Pascagoula, Mississippi 39567

Dear Senator Lott:

This is in reply to your letter of February 16, 1993, in which you inquired on

# Congressional

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DURG 3-10-93

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PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM  
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TRENT LOTT  
MISSISSIPPI

CHAIRMAN:  
COMMITTEE ON  
COMMITTEES

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2403

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
BUDGET

PRB  
92-235  
1002

February 16, 1993

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D. C. 20554

RE: PR Docket 92-235  
Donald J. Johnson

Dear Sir:

I am writing and respectfully requesting your help in addressing the issue pertaining to the above referenced constituent. I would greatly appreciate your checking into this matter and additionally would welcome any information you could provide which would be helpful in responding to Mr. Johnson.

Please respond to my attention at my hometown office: 3100 Pascagoula Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi 39567.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
TRENT LOTT

TL/gmc

Enclosure

February 10, 1993

*FCC*

The Honorable Trent Lott  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

JOHNSEN'S  
OUTBOARD & ENGINE SERVICE  
2430 MARKET STREET • PASCAGOULA, MS 39567

Dear Senator Lott:

I am a radio control model airplane enthusiast and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing operating model airplanes. I am a very active member in Singing River Radio Control Club and the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfacing with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful consideration and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

*Donald J. Johnsen*

*2011 Jackson St*

*Pascagoula, Mo. 39567*